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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : BERGHOF et al.
Serial No. : 09/508,238
For : **AMINO ACID SEQUENCES AND METHOD
FOR ISOLATING BACTERIA FROM THE
TYPE PSEUDOMONAS**
Filed : May 8, 2000
Examiner : J. Souaya
Group Art Unit : 1655

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**AMENDMENT AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION
OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated August 28, 2001 for the above referenced patent application, kindly amend the application as follows:

02/04/2002 00000020 09508238

01 FEB 17 460.00 DP
02/04/2002 00000020 09508238

02 FEB 17 252.00 DP
02 FEB 17 105.00 SP

Kindly amend the application without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims 3, 5, 6, 9, 11, 15 and 21 without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents.

Kindly amend claims as follows without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents:

7. (Amended) The isolated nucleic acid sequence according to claim 30, wherein the nucleic acid sequence is single-stranded or double-stranded.

8. (Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 30, wherein the nucleic acid sequence is present

- D¹*
- (i) as DNA or
 - (ii) as RNA corresponding to (i) or
 - (iii) as PNA.

D²

10. (Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 8, wherein the nucleic acid sequence has been modified or labelled or additionally modified or labelled in such a manner that it comprises, in a manner known *per se* for analytical detection processes, one or more radioactive groups, coloured groups, fluorescent groups, groups for immobilisation on a solid phase or groups for an indirect or direct reaction.

Sub 17
D³

12. (Amended) A method of detecting the presence or absence of bacteria comprising the steps of: (i) using a kit according to claim 11; (ii) carrying out nucleic acid hybridisation or nucleic acid amplification or nucleic acid hybridization plus amplification and detecting the presence or absence of bacteria belonging to a group of bacteria of the *Pseudomonas* genus.